



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/614,723-Conf. #7557
				Filing Date	July 7, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Tomohiko Matsushita
				Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	15115/080001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (# known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
K.G.	AA*	US-6,686,582	02-03-2004	Völcker et al.	Corresponds to JP2002-514739
K.G.	AB*	US-6,473,239	10-29-2002	Völcker et al.	Corresponds to WO00/22417

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (# known)				
K.G.	BA	JP-2001-183296	07-06-2001	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.		
K.G.	BB	JP-3-188408	08-16-1991	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.	Corresponds to JP2571859	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
K.G.	CA	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No.: 2001-183296, Publication Date: July 6, 2001, 2 page			
K.G.	CB	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No.: 03-188408, Publication Date: August 16, 1991, 2 pages			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	<i>Kara Gessel</i>	Date Considered	12/05
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	-------